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TUESDAY
JULY 14, 1953

French Bastille Day. The Lyons picked us up at 9:20 and we went off to the colorful French military demonstration and celebration at Napoleon Barracks, the spacious French army reservation in their sector of Berlin. It was a goodly performance and all the local celebrities, such as Mayor Reuter, and the four Commandants - British, American, French and Russian - were there. After a couple of hours of reviewing foot and motorized units, in the course of which a thunderstorm drenched the spectators, we went indoors for a jolly vin d'honneur. On our way back to the house we swooped upon a couple of antique shops, mediocrely supplied with wares, and bought one 18th Century Furstenberg dinner plate for the equivalent of six dollars (cheap compared with what its price would have been in Paris).

The Lyons, including their daughter Alice, lunched with us at Dr. Conant's house. Then young Mr. Isham [redacted] kindly and intelligently conducted us on a tour through the Soviet sector. The devastation is utterly appalling and the famous Hitler Bunker a mere mass of rubble. There is a striking contrast between the apathy and shoddiness of this sector and the liveliness and well-stocked shops in the other sectors. The display of consumer goods in East Berlin is pitiful.

We went to a good print shop but bought nothing.

Next, an hour of excellent briefing at the U. S. headquarters by Mr. McAuliffe on the Berlin situation.

E. went off with Elsie, and Cecil and I drove out to Wansee and had drinks with Major General and Mrs. Timberman, he the American Commandant.

The Lyons have a Volkswagon - wonderful little car.

E. went off to dinner with Elsie and a concert later at a displaced persons camp. Audrey was dined by Alice and later taken to two night clubs before being

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returned home at 1:00 a.m.

I attended an interesting stag dinner at Cecil's and had a long talk afterwards with impressive Mayor Reuter. He is very fluent in English, big moon-like, strong face, iron gray hair, tough and determined, proud of his Berliners who love him, believing the June 17 riots in Berlin marked a definite end of any hopes of the Soviets to communize East Germany. He is anti-Adenauer and probably intensely ambitious to play an even greater role in the future destinies of Germany. He places the issue of unification of his country above all others.

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